

PATENTS
Attorney Docket No. STK-075 CON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Examiner : Ruixiang Li
Group Art Unit : 1646
Applicants : Hermann Oppermann, et al.
Application No. : 10/816,768 Confirmation No. : 3980
Filed : April 2, 2004
For : MODIFIED TGF- β SUPERFAMILY PROTEINS

New York, NY 10036
December 22, 2008

Mail Stop Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY AND AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Sir:

In response to the April 21, 2008 Final Office Action and September 22, 2008 Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief, applicants request continued examination and provide the following remarks.

On August 21, 2008, applicants filed an Amendment And Reply To Final Office Action. The Examiner mailed an Advisory Action on September 22, 2008. On

October 21, 2008, applicants filed a Notice of Appeal. Applicants are filing this response within two months from the filing date of the Notice of Appeal, *i.e.*, on or before December 22, 2008 (December 21, 2008 being a Sunday). Thus, this Request for Continued Examination is timely filed.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.